

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF BAY CITY

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a community in my district that is celebrating its 100th anniversary as a city. Sunday, the residents of Bay City, Michigan celebrate their history that 100 years ago was the result of a true tale of two cities. Much of this history is documented in two excellent articles in the Bay City Times by local reporter Tim Younkman.

Like many of the towns in my district, it was the lumber industry that brought people, commerce, growth and prosperity to the Saginaw Bay area to found the village of Bay City at the mouth of the Saginaw River in 1857. It later became a city in 1865 but was known as the "East Side" because on the opposite side of the river, the "West Side" was comprised of three small communities.

In the late 1800's, the Bay City area was nationally known for being a boom town. The success of the lumber mills attracted pioneers and early entrepreneurs from the far reaches, including New York City. One pioneer in particular, Henry Sage, teamed with local businessman, John McGraw, to build the world's largest sawmill, which is now known as Veterans Memorial Park.

Sage was also credited with creating one of the three West Side communities known as Wenona. In 1877, Wenona consolidated with the community of Banks, named after the Civil War General Nathaniel Banks, and the community of Salzberg, the region of Germany where local settlers came from in the old country, to form West Bay City.

At the turn of the 20th century, lumber tycoon Spencer Fisher and shipbuilder James Davidson worked with local West Bay City families to campaign for the consolidation of the east and west communities into one community to promote more business growth. However, West Bay City Mayor C.J. Barnett, who feared an East side political take-over, opposed the idea. While East Bay City politicians supported the move, East Side business owners feared a rise in property taxes due to the poor financial health of the communities across the river.

A dual city vote in 1903 on the proposal lead to a stale mate when East Side voted in favor and West Side voted against. The measure was then taken to the Michigan Legislature to create a combined city charter to incorporate these municipalities into a unified Bay City. Governor Aaron Bliss signed the single city charter into law in June of 1903. However, in a surprise move by the West Side City Council voted to pass costly community improvement projects onto the united Bay City so the East Side voters retracted the deal and ended the consolidation effort.

To make the retraction effective, the State Legislature passed a law rescinding the consolidation charter and awaited then Governor Fred Warner's signature for completion.

Businessmen still in favor of consolidation lobbied for a veto and those opposed to the consolidation urged the Governor to sign. Governor Warner met with both sides for one hour on February 16, 1905 before departing Lansing for a meeting. Four hours later, he

wired back to Lansing saying, "I have decided to veto bill. You can make this known." While some were unhappy with the decision, both sides greeted the Governor's veto, which unified Bay City, with marching bands, banners and a celebration upon their return to Bay City. The newly elected Mayor Gustav Hine held the first meeting of the Bay City Council on April 10, 2005.

In a recent letter from current Mayor Robert Katt and Deputy City Manager/City Clerk Dana Muscott to local clergy on upcoming centennial events, they stated, "it took an act of the State Legislature to force the merger of the two Bay City's. But unified we were. And unified we remain. And that is worth celebrating."

While other cities have struggled after the early lumber boom, Bay City has persevered through innovation and maintained their prosperity. In a city of over 36,000 people and resting at the junction of I-75 and US 10, Bay City now benefits from large auto, chemical and sugar manufacturers. As a leading recreational port, a city that loves to celebrate its famous waterways is particularly proud of two Tall Ships events that bring historic sailing ships to their shores. I can personally attest to the broadly shared opinion that Bay City is a warm and welcoming community which is proud of their history and how far they have prospered together.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Bay City and its residents on their first 100 years and in wishing them well through the next century.

HONORING DON MORRIS

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay public tribute to a remarkable individual from my home district. Don Morris, a legendary High School basketball coach in Breckinridge and Hardin County, KY, was recently inducted into the Dawahares/Kentucky High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame. His induction honors his 21 years of coaching success; winning an impressive 353 games and leading two teams to the state championship game.

Most people know about Kentucky's love of basketball and the commitment many make every season to win. Coach Morris' athletic achievements epitomize a work ethic and commitment to succeed worthy of the Hall of Fame. But it was the lessons Don Morris instilled in his players about life's priorities, impressions countless young men took far off the court and applied many years after High School, that remain the true measure of his legacy.

A master of the sport, he always conducted himself in the highest standard, expecting both athletic and personal excellence from those he led. Each year, Morris shared with his team a simple message; "Church, home, school and ball and in that order." It was a priority list that has endured in the hearts and minds of hundreds of former players.

I would like to recognize Don Morris today, before the entire U.S. House of Representatives, for his many achievements as a coach.

His unique dedication to the development and well-being of student-athletes and the communities they now serve make him an outstanding citizen, worthy of our collective honor and respect.

IN HONOR OF CALICO ROCK, AR'S
100TH ANNIVERSARY**HON. MARION BERRY**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today on behalf of Congress to honor the town of Calico Rock, AR on its 100th Anniversary.

Located in a strikingly beautiful section deep in the Ozarks and directly on the banks of the famous White River, Calico Rock affects all who visit it.

Calico Rock has grown from its roots as an important river port on the Upper White River as early as the first half of the 1800s. Legend says the town was named when an early explorer of the White River Valley saw the limestone bluff and called it "The Calico Rocks" because it resembled the calico fabric used to make women's dresses.

Today, Calico Rock is a picture of rural American community with good schools, a hospital, an historic downtown area and world-renown fishing. More importantly, Calico Rock is a place where "community" is not merely a term tossed around on the political stump, but a living, breathing entity acting as an umbrella of protection in the turbulent storm of these times.

Calico Rock lives up to a moral standard based on helping those in need and celebrating life's victories as a neighborhood, a congregation and a society.

On behalf of the Congress, I congratulate Calico Rock on their 100th Anniversary. The community that has been built during that time is a model society should take note of. Calico Rock has shown Arkansas and the entire country that a growing Rural America does not mean abandoning the ideals and values that make a group of people a community.

NATIONAL TARTAN DAY

HON. MIKE FERGUSON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of National Tartan Day, which is celebrated every year on April 6.

National Tartan Day was created with the passage of Senate Resolution 155 on March 20, 1998. April 6th was chosen as the date because the Declaration of Arbroath, the Scottish Declaration of Independence, was signed on April 6, 1320.

On March 9, 2005, the House of Representatives approved House Resolution 41, which expressed the sense of the House of Representatives that April 6 be established as National Tartan Day to recognize the outstanding achievements and contributions made by Scottish-Americans.

National Tartan Day is a time to remember the major role that Scottish Americans have